

# Rotary Foundation Alumni of District 5300

## Inside this issue:

Rotary International Reconnection Newsletter	2
District 5300 Alumni Committee	2
Join the Rotary Foundation Alumni on LinkedIn	2
Join the Rotary Foundation Alumni on Facebook	2
Welcome New Generations Club	2
Top Five Reasons to support the Rotary	2
Bequest Society	3
Featuring Christina DesVaus Study in Uruguay	3
Congratulations outbound Ambassadorial Scholars and World Peace	3
Upcoming Events World Peace Conference District Conference Rotary International Convention	4
Message from the President of Rotary	4
Polio Update	4

**District 5300 Website**  
[www.district5300.org](http://www.district5300.org)

**Rotary International Website:**  
[www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)



## WANTED

**Former GSE,  
Ambassadorial  
Scholars  
and  
World Peace  
Fellows**



### Reconnecting with Rotary

Happy holidays Alumni, Rotarians and guests. We hope you had a wonderful year. We would like to thank all those who attended our first Alumni fellowship in May this year during the District Conference in Nevada. It was a great start, but it's just a start. We hope every club will reach out to their former GSE members, Ambassadorial Scholars, Cultural Scholars and World Peace Fellow and encourage them to get reconnected with Rotary. We need updated information from the clubs to find these potential Alumni. They have had

the great opportunity of being recipients of the wonderful world of Rotary and it's time to reconnect with them. Many have moved on with successful careers and may be potential new members. Others may just be interested in being a member of our Alumni association. Either way, please let us know how to contact them so we can reconnect them to the great works of Rotary. Please contact one of the Alumni committee members listed on page three for further details. Visit the District Website for future updates.

### Message from the District Governor

Rotary deeply touches the lives of people. Through it Rotarians learn the depth of giving and the inner fulfillment of such acts as they connect to others in meaningful ways. Rotary believes in the dignity of all persons and reaches out to others regardless of race, creed, or political philosophy. Rotary helps members to grow into giving human beings.

Rotary Alumni are a special group of people. They have

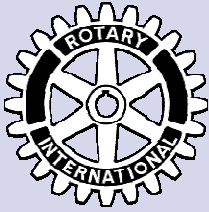
experienced first hand the gifts of The Rotary Foundation and seen its impact on the lives of people. Whether through participation on a Group Study Exchange Team or as an Ambassadorial Scholar or as a Peace Scholar, each participant has not only grown personally but also has had opportunities to give of themselves to others for the betterment of their fellowman.

Rotarians believe that "peace can come about through un-

derstanding." Your participation in Foundation programs facilitates this belief. As Alumni you were given opportunities to widen your understanding of the world, its issues and its viewpoints, in historical and cultural contexts.

*Continued on page 2*





**Welcome to the District - New Generations Club**

The new Generations club is a provisional Rotary club in the midst of being chartered in Las Vegas. While not age restricted, it is focused on members in their 20's & 30's. The emphasis of the club's activities is hands on projects rather than money donating and expensive service projects. The New Generations Club meets every Tuesday at Foothills Lodge at Tropicana & Fort Apache from 6:00pm-7:00pm., 9435 West Tropicana Avenue, Las Vegas, NV

The New Generations Club meets every Tuesday at Foothills Lodge at Tropicana & Fort Apache from 6:00pm-7:00pm., 9435 West Tropicana Avenue, Las Vegas, NV

Looking for Rotary Alumni to join!

Contact Dave Cabral for further details [djc@aamcomlv.com](mailto:djc@aamcomlv.com)

**District 5300 Foundation Chair**

Christine Montan, PDG  
Alhambra  
[cmontan@hotmail.com](mailto:cmontan@hotmail.com)

**Rotary International - Reconnections Newsletter**  
<http://www.rotary.org/en/studentsandyouth/alumni/reconnectionsnewsletter/Pages/ridefault.aspx>

*Reconnections* is a bimonthly e-newsletter for and about alumni of The Rotary Foundation's programs, providing timely updates on alumni activities and accomplishments as well as Rotary news.

In Reconnections, you can read stories about Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholars, Rotary Peace Fellows and other alumni working to make a difference in the world.

Through the above listed website address on the Rotary International website, you can update your contact information, and automatically receive *Reconnections*.

**Join the Rotary Foundation Alumni group on LinkedIn at:**  
<http://www.linkedin.com/groups?mostPopular=&gid=731>  
**Join the Rotary Foundation Alumni group on Facebook at:**  
<http://www.facebook.com/RotaryFoundationAlumni>

**District Governors Message Continued from page 1**

Understanding, however, is two way and requires not only study and dialogue but also connection and empathy. Rotary's Foundation programs foster and encourage this depth of understanding – and make peace happen.

Rotarians are indebted to our Alumni for helping achieve the objects of Rotary and bringing moments of peace to a world of conflict. We thank you for your thoughtful efforts and personal commitment.

**District 5300 Alumni Association Committee Members:**

Karen Whisenhunt, Chair,  
Las Vegas  
[kwhis@cox.net](mailto:kwhis@cox.net)

Adrienne Cox  
Las Vegas, Southwest  
[adriennecx@yahoo.com](mailto:adriennecx@yahoo.com)

Larry Skaggs  
Green Valley  
[bookmlar@cox.net](mailto:bookmlar@cox.net)

Aurora (A.J) Jackson  
Montebello  
[ajacson@cityofmontebello.com](mailto:ajacson@cityofmontebello.com)

Catina Negrete  
High Desert  
[Catina.negrete@stjoe.com](mailto:Catina.negrete@stjoe.com)

**Top five reasons to support The Rotary Foundation**

There are as many reasons to support The Rotary Foundation as there are ways to do good in the world.

By contributing to the Foundation, you help support the Foundation's six areas of focus, which help to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty. By giving US\$100 a year through the **Every Rotarian, Every Year (EREY)** initia-

tive, you become a Rotary Foundation Sustaining Member. Contributions to EREY are the primary source of funding for Foundation programs.

Here are a few ways your contributions are making change possible.

5. Fighting hunger
4. Reducing child mortality
3. Promoting peace and conflict resolution
2. Basic education and literacy
1. Eradicating polio

**Bequest Society**

Help secure the future of the Foundation's Educational and Humanitarian Grants programs by including The Rotary Foundation in your estate plans. Become a Bequest Society Member Today!



## Featuring Christina DesVaux—Study Abroad in Uruguay

I went to Uruguay in 2008 as a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar to research women's knitting cooperatives and to take Spanish courses at the University of Montevideo. While there, I spoke at twenty-two clubs and was chosen, of the six scholars, to speak at the eighty-first National Rotary Conference in Punta del Este. I also guest lectured at the University of Montevideo and am a writer for Blog Couture, a design blog in Montevideo.

Rotary's funding gave me the chance to savor the city's rhythm—its late nights and its Sunday lunches, the curve of its promenade, and the sound of my Uruguayan roommates watching telenovelas in the morning; but I wanted to make something more of my time, specifically with the artisans who I had met in my research. In response to limited domestic markets for female cooperatives, and due to an inability to link them with existing fair-trade organizations in the United States, I founded Textura which retails and wholesales "handmade knits from Uruguay to consumers who value

good design and just compensation." To curate our collection, I visited street fairs, design forums, and rural festivals, looking for market-ready knits. I have since partnered with two textile designers to form a new line of knits, El Origen Wool, which will be for sale on our website, [www.texturastore.com](http://www.texturastore.com).

I returned to the United States this past July to begin the full-time MBA program at The University of Chicago Booth School of Business. I have learned a tremendous amount by starting Textura. I have handled uncertainty and worked in an international context. Now at Booth, I hope to fortify my quantitative skills, strategic thinking, and international commerce know-how.

And though I am happy in Chicago, I do miss Montevideo. I came to truly love it and its corner stores and the 16 peso *membrillo* I bought while walking home, that I would eat with *queso colonia* as I sat in my room, crumbling walls keeping me colder than when I was outside. I miss watching the *em-*

*pleadas* wash the sidewalks in vain with liters of wasted water; and the sound of my roommates *batiendo* their coffee con leche. I miss the silence of Sundays and walking great distances on empty streets, because all across the city, the families had gathered, deserting their routines to cook and eat together. I miss the palpable smell of *asado* and the old woman who sat on her stoop next to the St. Benedict School on those lovely summer afternoons, who'd say as I passed.

I could not have any of these experiences had it not been for Rotary. I will be forever indebted to the Las Vegas Rotary Club for supporting my candidacy and to Rotary International for selecting me to live and study in Uruguay. For their commitment to me, I am grateful. I hope when the time comes that I will be able to join Rotary and continue in the legacy of the generations of business leaders who have given so much to their communities, and beyond.



Christina DesVaux  
Ambassadorial Scholar



Christina DesVaux poses in  
front of Campaign Sign.



Christina DesVaux and  
host family..

## Congratulations to the Ambassadorial Scholars and World Peace Fellow—Outbound in 2011

### DISTRICT 5300 Committee Chairs:

#### World Peace Fellow

Chair: Jim Frey  
Rotary Club of Green Valley.  
email: [jhfrey99@hotmail.com](mailto:jhfrey99@hotmail.com)

#### Ambassadorial Scholarship

Chair: Chris Carroll,  
Rotary Club of Boulder City  
email:  
[carroll.chris8@gmail.com](mailto:carroll.chris8@gmail.com)

**Congratulations** to the following candidates who have been notified by The Rotary Foundation that they ARE Ambassadorial Scholars for the academic year 2011-2012:

**Melanie Reed**, sponsored by Las Vegas Rotary, will study at the University of Ghana

**Nicole Holzberg**, sponsored by Claremont Rotary, will study at the Universidad de San Andrea in Argentine

**Solamon Estin**, sponsored by Claremont Sunrise, will study at the Universidad Centroamerica in Nicaragua

**Katarina Mayers**, sponsored by San Marino Rotary, who will study at the Pontifica Universidad Catolica de Chile in Chile

**Daniel Harrison Low**, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Rancho Cucamonga, will study at the University of

Malawi in Zomba, Malawi.

The Rotary Foundation Selected **Chantelle Doerksen**, a resident of Pahrump for the Rotary Peace Scholar for 2011-2013. Chantelle will study International Relations with an emphasis on poverty and health at the Universidad del Salvador in Bueno Airies, Argentina.

Chantelle is sponsored by the Las Vegas Club.

## UPCOMING EVENTS



**ROTARY  
DISTRICT  
5300**

### 16th ANNUAL PEACE CONFERENCE

SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 2011  
8:30 AM-12:30 PM  
POMONA COLLEGE,  
CLAREMONT, CALIFORNIA

THEME: Achieving Peace in  
Afganistan

Challenges and Opportunities  
Keynote Speaker:

The Honorable Zalmay Khalilzad  
World-renowned diplomat and former U.S. Ambassador to Afghanistan and the United Nations

**Alumni Welcome and Encouraged!**

### District Conference June 9-12, 2011

La Jolla Marriott  
4240 La Jolla Village Drive,  
San Diego, CA.

Please join Rotarians from around the district as we celebrate a successful year for District Governor Roger Schulte. Watch for future updates and registration on the district website at [www.district5300.org](http://www.district5300.org)

We had such a great time at the Alumni Fellowship last year during the District Conference that we plan on having another event again this year. Alumni, Rotarians and guests are welcome to attend. Further details will be posted on the District website.



**This is an amazing opportunity to meet Rotarians and Alumni from all over the world!**

**Register today at [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org).**  
Registration Fee for Alumni is just \$25.00 per person for the convention. Special events tickets sold separately.

## Message from the President of Rotary International — Ray Klingensmith

Fellow Alumni of The Rotary Foundation

Less than sixty years ago, polio was a word parents dreaded as epidemics swept the globe crippling 500,000 children every year. Thanks to Rotary, great strides have been made to eradicate this debilitating and frequently fatal yet preventable disease. And though instances of the disease are down over 99%, some children still see their lives devastated by this cruel disease. Even worse, it can spread again at any time to unimmunized children.

This is where you can help! With your support, Rotary and its partners can finally claim victory and consign this disease to the history books. As the first former Ambassadorial Scholar to become president of Rotary International, I am well aware that the personal and professional experience afforded to you by your respective Rotary scholarships is priceless. Now is the time to give back to the Foundation that supported you by donating to the noble cause to polio eradication.

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation recently joined forces with Rotary in the fight against polio. The Gates Foundation has given Rotary a challenge grant of US\$355 million with the condition that Rotary must raise an additional \$US200 million. I am pleased that our Rotary Foundation alumni have already contributed over US\$345,000 to the campaign. I now challenge our alumni, who have received so much from Rotary, to contribute a total of US\$ 1 million in time for the RI Convention in New Orleans, USA on 21-25 May 2011.

Please take part in this very important campaign today. To make your contribution, go to [www.rotary.org/endpolio](http://www.rotary.org/endpolio) and join me in riding the world, once and for all, of polio. The children of the world deserve our support!

Ray Klingensmith  
President 2010-2011, Rotary International

**Year-to-date  
Polio Cases**

2010: **753**  
(2009: 1282)  
As of Nov. 2

**END  
POLIO  
NOW**